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Application No. 10/697,952
Filed: October 30, 2003
TC Art Unit: 2652
Confirmation No.: 7613

REMARKS

Claims 2, 3, and 5 have been objected to and indicated as containing allowable subject matter.

Independent claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the subject matter of claim 3. Accordingly, claim 1 is believed to be in condition for allowance.

New independent claim 8 incorporates the subject matter of original claims 1 and 5. Accordingly, claim 8 is believed to be in condition for allowance.

New independent claim 9 is similar to original claims 1 and 6 and further recites that the pressing force presses the disk tray by a component force parallel to the surface of the recording medium and a component force perpendicular to the surface of the recording medium. For support, see the specification, page 21, line 27, to page 22, line 5; Figs. 12, 17. The prior art of record does not disclose, teach, or suggest such component forces perpendicular and parallel to the surface of the recording medium. Accordingly, claim 9 is believed to be in condition for allowance.

New independent claim 10 recites subject matter from claims 1 and 5. Claim 10 recites, among other things, that the pressing means generates the pressing force against the disk tray while the disk tray moves from the unloading position to the loading position and before the disk support means enters the chassis case. The prior art of record does not disclose, teach, or suggest

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generating a pressing force against the disk tray while the disk tray moves from the unloading position to the loading position and before the disk support means enters the chassis case. Accordingly, claim 10 is believed to be in condition for allowance.

Claims 1, 4, 6, and 7 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) over Akihisa (JP 2000-187916). In view of the above amendment to claim 1, this rejection is believed to be moot, and no further comment thereon is believed necessary at this time.

Claims 1, 6, and 7 have been objected to. The informalities in claims 1 and 7 have been corrected. Claim 6 has been canceled. Accordingly, this objection is believed to have been overcome.

The title of the invention has been objected to as not descriptive. The title has accordingly been amended.

The specification has been amended to delete references to the claim numbers in the Summary, as such claim numbers are no longer consistent with the claims as presently amended. Some obvious clerical errors in the specification have been corrected.

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In view of the above amendments and remarks, all claims are believed to be in condition for allowance, and reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested. The Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned attorney to discuss any matter that would expedite allowance of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

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